

BUSINESS VOICE

THE LAS VEGAS CHAMBER OF

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BUSINESS VOICE
THE LAS VEGAS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE MAGAZINE
VOLUME 33 NUMBER 8

{ president's message }



KRISTIN MCMILLAN
President & CEO

Cause and effect...how the things we do now, how the plans and ideas that we put in motion today can have far-reaching and lasting impacts on our city and beyond. We're seeing now how some of the *causes* – simple ideas, conversations, projects and partnerships – are sparking more conversation and bigger ideas, and feed into *effects* that signal a more enlightened approach to doing business as a global community. For instance...

At the beginning of July, President Obama signed into law the transportation bill designating Interstate 11, a project that would provide a direct channel to connect Las Vegas with Phoenix (currently, the two largest national metropolitan areas without a direct interstate connection). The Chamber engaged with our elected officials in Washington, D.C. and their staffs, as a part of the multi-year effort to move forward this important piece of economic legislation. Now, I-11 is one step closer to reality and an important breakthrough in advancing *cause and effect*.

The Governor's Office of Economic Development recently appointed the Las Vegas Regional Economic Development Council as of the ten new regional development authorities (RDAs) in the state, as part of Governor Sandoval's State Plan for Excellence in Economic Development. The Chamber has been involved in the formation of this joint private/public enterprise and will continue to play a significant role in the shared efforts to strengthen job creation, business expansion and workforce development, and to brand Southern Nevada to domestic and international audiences. The collaboration we have started now will have a critical impact on Southern Nevada's future position in the global economy. *Cause and effect*.

We're also preparing to launch later this year, *A Little More Action, Please: Let's Connect the Dots, Las Vegas*, a conference on topics that are relevant to our positioning as a competitive player in the global economy. These symposia will challenge business, government and civic leaders to examine why Las Vegas is not as far along as some other major cities in "connecting the dots" to establish a global economic presence. They will also stimulate serious conversation about challenges we face in education, workforce development and infrastructure, and will identify what action needs to be taken now to step up the pace in the race for global positioning to secure a prosperous economic future for decades to come. *Cause and effect*.

With these developments in the last month and in place for the near future, the Chamber is both excited and proud to play a part in the *causes* that will have long lasting *effects* on the future of our community. It's all about the things we do now to influence the outcomes ahead. **BV**

what's inside // AUGUST 2012

04	Chamber News	12	Benefit Spotlight	18	Wellness in the Workplace	26	Photo Gallery
06	Warriors to Workers	14	Creating a Social Media Policy	20	Member News	28	Government Affairs
10	Inspiring Action	16	Events	22	Ribbon Cuttings	30	Member Insights

support veterans at august business power luncheon

This month's Business Power Luncheon will feature a moving keynote from Retired Sergeant First Class Norbie Lara, who was injured while on combat patrol in Iraq. His story provides a firsthand account of how he was helped by the Wounded Warrior Project™, a non-profit organization dedicated to helping veterans assimilate back into civilian life. The luncheon will give insight into how hiring veterans reentering the workforce can benefit your business, and will provide local business owners with the tools and connections to ease the hiring process for veterans.

This inspirational and motivational luncheon will also address the challenges the United States, as well as the Las Vegas community, will face as more than one million veterans enter the civilian workforce over the next five years, and how businesses can simultaneously support these veterans and benefit their companies.

\$5 from every ticket sale will be donated to the Wounded Warrior Project. Tables of ten are also available for purchase. Don't miss this motivating and touching luncheon celebrating veterans and how local businesses of every size and industry can benefit from hiring them.

BUSINESS POWER LUNCHEON

WHERE: Four Seasons Las Vegas

DATE: Wednesday, August 22

TIME: 11:30 A.M. - 1:30 P.M.

Register at LVChamber.com or call 702.641.5822.

mark your calendars to celebrate small business!

Celebrate the best of small business in Southern Nevada, and commemorate the spirit of entrepreneurialism at the Small Business Excellence Awards Luncheon on Thursday, September 20, at the Paris Las Vegas. Exclusively sponsored by Nevada State Bank, these awards pay homage to those businesses in Las Vegas that truly go above and beyond to create innovative workplaces and inventive ways to market and represent their brand.

During the luncheon, winners in each of the four categories will be announced. Support the small business community in Southern Nevada by attending this important annual event.

SMALL BUSINESS EXCELLENCE AWARDS LUNCHEON

WHERE: Paris Las Vegas

DATE: Thursday, September 20

TIME: 11:30 A.M. - 1:30 P.M.

Register at LVChamber.com or call 702.641.5822.

chamber sales team sweeps top national honors



Vance Adams

Chris Wilson

Roya Khavari

The Chamber sales executives once again took top honors in the American Chamber of Commerce Executives (ACCE) annual sales contest. Vance Adams earned first place, Chris Wilson placed second, and Roya Khavari took third. Congratulations to the Chamber sales team for their achievements.

PRODUCTION TEAM

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shake things up at “business blend”

Do you want to increase your business network and create new professional relationships? September's Business Blend, a unique bi-annual Business After Hours, creates new business opportunities for both Chamber members and Vegas Young Professionals. Returning to the Miracle Mile Shops, this high-energy event drives hundreds of attendees ready to do business with one another.

The Miracle Mile Shops, a 1.2 mile retail and entertainment hotspot centrally located with easy access and ample parking, features 170 specialty shops, 15 restaurants, and three live entertainment theaters. Celebrating the latest trends, urban architecture and some of Las Vegas' most talked-about locations, Miracle Mile Shops provides an eclectic backdrop for building connections.

Business Blend is complimentary for Chamber members. Don't miss this opportunity to increase your business leads and gain valuable new professional alliances with other members, as well as Vegas Young Professionals members.



**MIRACLE MILE
SHOPS**
at planet hollywood resort & casino

BUSINESS BLEND

WHERE: Miracle Mile Shops at Planet Hollywood

DATE: Wednesday, September 12

TIME: 5:30 - 7:30 P.M.

Register at LVChamber.com or call 702.641.5822.

u.s. congressman amodei to address the membership at eggs & issues

United States Congressman Mark Amodei will be the featured speaker at the final Eggs & Issues of the year on Wednesday, September 5. This popular breakfast series gives the Southern Nevada business community exclusive access to hear first-hand from public officials on issues impacting Nevada businesses. This will also be Congressman Amodei's first address to the Chamber membership.

Congressman Amodei will make remarks on the federal issues affecting the Southern Nevada business community, and then take questions from the audience in a town hall-style Q & A session. This is an important opportunity for members to engage one of Nevada's key policymakers.

Table purchases for this event include two tickets to the VIP meet and greet with Congressman Amodei. You can choose to fill all ten seats, or fill nine and have the Chamber place an elected or appointed official at your table.



EGGS & ISSUES FEATURING U.S. CONGRESSMAN MARK AMODEI

WHERE: Palms Casino Resort

DATE: Wednesday, September 5

TIME: 7:30 - 9:00 a.m.

Register at LVChamber.com or call 702.641.5822.



WARRIORS TO WORKERS



“Transitioning back into civilian life was one of the hardest things I’ve ever had to do,” admits Kai Teel, an E4 specialist from the Army now working for Sprint. “Working puts you back into that zone of teamwork and camaraderie that you had while you were in the military. I’m a business tech support agent, which means I get to put a lot of the skills I had learned in the Army back into use.”

His job, which pairs his quick-thinking skills with customer service and translates his radio and repair work into telecommunications troubleshooting, became a major factor into easing back into civilian life. Working for Sprint also gave him additional stability through a consistent schedule and a full benefits package after 30 days.

Teel is one of more than a million veterans leaving the service in the next five years. He enlisted after September 11, 2001, and is part of the group referred to as “Gulf War-era II veterans.” In this group, national unemployment has seesawed between 9.5 and more than 13 percent in the last year; in his age range (18-24), the number has skyrocketed to 29.1 percent. Exacerbating the problem is the fact these young veterans tend to have previous work history in the fields of mining, construction, manufacturing and transportation – all industries that have experienced significant drops in employment during the recession. The problem of veteran unemployment, especially with the number of servicemen and women expected to leave the military in the near future, has drawn significant attention, from the President of the United States to local small business owners.

Bob Linden, president of Shred-It, a local business in Las Vegas, is a veteran and has hired veterans in the past. “Veterans can be light years ahead, in terms of their work experience,” Linden explains. “They have a can-do, make-it-happen attitude.” He also says that many veterans have skill sets that translate very well into almost any industry, something that Teel agrees with wholeheartedly. “The soldiers that I served with are hardworking, disciplined, on time and have amazing adaptability skills. Those are great assets to have in an employee.” More than 80 percent of military occupations have a direct civilian job equivalent, but veterans’ agencies caution that the 20 percent without a direct equivalent (such as Infantry and Field Artillery) does not necessarily mean that the veteran lacks transferrable skills; it simply makes those skills more challenging to translate in terms of civilian job qualifications.

Assisting in the reintegration process are myriad groups and organizations, several of them with ties to government programming. In 2011, the Department of Labor launched My Next Move For Veterans, an online resource that has veterans enter their military occupation codes and discover civilian opportunities for which they are well qualified. First Lady Michelle Obama and Dr. Jill Biden began the Joining Forces Initiative, which challenges the private sector to hire or train 100,000 veterans or military spouses by 2013.

One of the most prominent organizations helping veterans, especially those in the Gulf War-era II group, is the Wounded Warrior Project, which to date has helped more than 17,000 wounded veterans acclimate back to a civilian lifestyle. Their programs include a peer support

RESOURCES

There are myriad resources available to help you with navigating the benefits of hiring a veteran and how to begin the process. Here are just a few to get you started.

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs - benefits.va.gov/vow/foremployers.htm

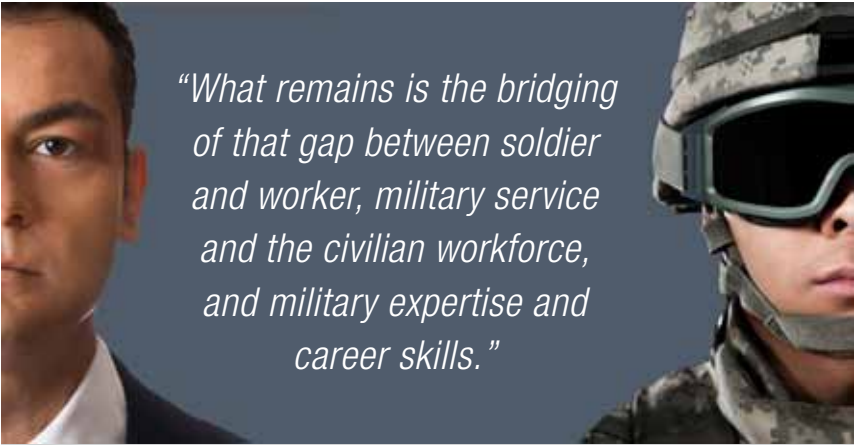
Access valuable information on the VOW to Hire Heroes Act of 2011, including tax credits available to you for hiring veterans, details on the Special Employer Incentives (SEI) program and other resources.

America's Heroes at Work - AmericasHeroesAtWork.gov

Download a step-by-step toolkit for hiring, accommodating and retaining veterans.

Veterans Employment Summit of 2011 - Veterans.House.gov/Summit

Read about what some companies are doing to hire America's veterans and the benefits of hiring veterans, gleaned from the important public and private partnership of last year's summit.



“What remains is the bridging of that gap between soldier and worker, military service and the civilian workforce, and military expertise and career skills.”

network, rehabilitative retreats, adaptive sports, counseling and Warriors to Work, a comprehensive program giving veterans with service-related disabilities access to training, career building tools and job searches.

Several major corporations throughout the United States have implemented veterans hiring initiatives, such as JP Morgan Chase, which launched its 100,000 Jobs Mission in March 2011 with the goal of hiring 100,000 transitioning veterans by 2020 (11 additional companies have since joined this initiative), and AT&T, which offers a custom military skills translator online as well as its Careers4Vets program, which connects interested veterans with mentors within the company. Smaller companies that don't necessarily hire often support veteran employment programs through suppliers and distributors that hire veterans and utilizing temporary work from veterans.

Linden encourages businesses, even if they aren't hiring, to promote a veteran-friendly workforce. “The unemployment rate of veterans is a major issue. We need to do as much as we can to impact that,” he says. “Whether we're hiring or not, it's about creating awareness of the issue.”

In addition, a bipartisan bill making it easier for veterans to find jobs using the skills they acquired through the military was signed into law at the end of July. The Veteran Skills to Jobs Act requires federal agencies to credit relevant military training and experience towards the requirements for occupational licenses they issue, including those in aerospace, communications and energy.

This will be a major assistance to veterans trying to gain valuable licenses to pursue post-military careers.

Federal initiatives encourage businesses from major corporations to family-owned small businesses to hire veterans. Fiscal benefits, including the Work Opportunity Tax Credit (WOTC), Returning Heroes Tax Credit, the Wounded Warrior Tax Credit and those credits included in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, are just one facet of the benefits available to employers, and can add up to thousands of dollars in tax credits during the year.

The Department of Veterans Affairs also offers resources and benefits to employers hiring veterans through its Veteran Benefits Administration's Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment (VR & E) Program. This program provides services to veterans with service-connected disabilities and aims to have these veterans transition as seamlessly as possible into suitable employment. The VR & E On the Job Training Program offsets some of the salary cost of some workers while they train as apprentices. Additional reimbursement plans are available through the VR & E Special Employer Incentive Program.

America's Heroes at Work gives employers access to a veterans hiring initiative toolkit directly from its website. This toolkit gives insight into the reintegration process and helps employers understand how military skills translate into their workplace, as well as gives them ideas on how to promote their veteran-friendly hiring objectives and retain veteran employees.

BY THE NUMBERS

Figures provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, and reflect through the end of 2011.



Aside from the various fiscal and public relations benefits of hiring veterans, veterans possess underlying skills gleaned from the military, such as an accelerated learning curve that may lower employee training costs for employers and enhance employee productivity. Veterans are also accustomed to a level of camaraderie and trust among a team, which make them excellent in a teamwork environment. Teel remarks, “In the military, you have constant teamwork and a constant support network. Veterans are huge team players in that regard. The camaraderie you get from a veteran in the workplace is pretty much unparalleled.”

These combined efforts and benefits for employers make a major difference in not only the lives of the veterans they employ, but their families as they adjust back to

having their loved one in their lives. Employed veterans are less likely to have transition issues with their spouses and children, and are less likely to experience serious stress-related issues due to financial hardship. Studies conducted by the USC Center for Innovation and Research on Veterans & Military Families found that veterans struggling to find stable civilian employment tend to be more at-risk for mental health problems, as well. The impact of employment on a veteran has far-reaching effects, both socially and emotionally on the veteran and economically for the employer.

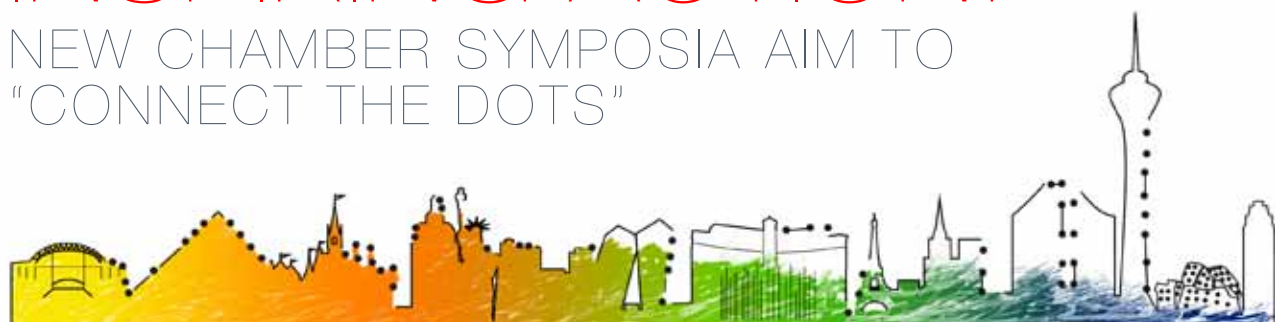
With the number of servicemen and women expected to leave the military in the upcoming years, there is a general consensus between government agencies, private employers and veterans' organizations that there

exists a gap between military service and private employment, and that gap must be bridged. With the influx of new benefits and programming available to both employers and veterans reentering the civilian workforce, the impetus to hire veterans is there. What remains is the bridging of that gap between soldier and worker, military service and the civilian workforce, and military expertise and career skills.

Teel counts himself fortunate to have found employment that matches up with his military skill set, something he says has kept him on track with his transition. When asked if he had any advice to employers in regards to hiring veterans, he replies, “I hope employers are more open to hiring veterans. They have great values, and they work. I just hope they give them a chance.”

INSPIRING ACTION:

NEW CHAMBER SYMPOSIA AIM TO
"CONNECT THE DOTS"



The conversation has been building in pockets throughout the Las Vegas community: How do we move our city forward to build a new economy? This fall, the Chamber will hold a conference to identify opportunities for the Las Vegas community to expand and strengthen the Southern Nevada economy and improve global competitiveness. These day-long sessions will convene local, regional and national experts to share insights and best practices, as well as open discussions of how Southern Nevada can learn lessons utilized in other metropolitan areas and communities to transition into a more global city. Working with Brookings Mountain West and other community partners, the Chamber's symposia will focus on lessons that Las Vegas can learn from other regions and how they utilized regional coalitions, leveraged public-private partnerships and funding mechanisms, and worked with higher education.

The symposia is in collaboration with the new Las Vegas Regional Economic Development Council (RDA). The sessions will identify issues and action steps for the community, including potential policy issues to take forward during the 2013 legislative session.

HOW DOES LAS VEGAS COMPARE? HOW DO WE CONNECT MORE DOTS?


The first session will examine the cities of Orlando, Denver and Phoenix, three peers to Las Vegas that have "connected more dots" than Las Vegas, particularly in the areas of medicine, education and infrastructure. This session will ask how they did it and what lessons can we learn from each of these metropolises. How can Las Vegas become a global city? How does Las Vegas stack up in terms of attracting businesses, and are we losing out on opportunities?

EDUCATION AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

This session will dive into all levels of workforce development, from K-12 to higher education. What do we need to do to produce a quality workforce to attract and retain business? Are we producing the workforce we need? It will also seek to correlate post K-12 education with economic development and the needs of the private sector workforce. The session will investigate how other regions fund higher education and what it will take to elevate UNLV as a research institution.

INFRASTRUCTURE, INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND ENERGY

The final session will examine current infrastructure systems in Southern Nevada and what we need to do to improve upon them to be globally competitive. It will also envision a Las Vegas with all of the "dots" fully connected, and the impact of that connection on the economy. In addition to investigating the potential of a high-speed rail connection and the reality of Interstate 11, this symposium will also analyze Southern Nevada's current information technology assets and opportunities for growth in that sector.

Each symposium will feature presentations, Q & A sessions and thoughtful discourse on applying the ideas and best practices discussed throughout the series. If you are interested in engaging in these conversations, please look for more details at LVChamber.com. 



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it's never too early...

Prudent business owners begin planning for holiday get-togethers, as well as meetings for the next year, far in advance. Be part of the group that gets their 2013 planning finished early by booking your meetings and special events at the Chamber.

The CenturyLink™ Conference Center, located at the Las Vegas Chamber of Commerce in the Town Square shopping center, boasts a number of amenities and services to accommodate any of your conference or meeting space needs. The conference center has multiple meeting rooms, and can fit up to 144 people in a number of versatile set-ups to best fit your meeting needs. It is an ideal place for:

- Seminars and conferences
- Breakout sessions
- Board meetings
- Training sessions
- Depositions and mock trials
- Interviews
- Polling and research
- Club and association meetings
- Client meetings
- Social events
- Holiday parties

"The CenturyLink Conference Center in Town Square is the perfect place for me to hold meetings. It is centrally located for all of my local attendees, and it is close to the airport when I have out of town speakers or guests," commends Taylor Emrick, public relations coordinator for Trylovich, Gifford & Goasland. "I held a webinar in the conference room and it was simple to set up and they had all of the equipment needed for a successful meeting."

In addition, the conference center also features a focus group room with attached viewing room, video and audio recording capabilities. The Chamber's polling and research center is also available to conduct your market research as needed.


With modern features and amenities, room rentals are priced competitively, with special discounts given for Chamber members. Rentals include tables, chairs, linens, and WiFi. Available amenities for rent include:



- 103" 1080P HD plasma display
- 50" and 65" 1080P HD plasma displays
- Wireless handheld and lavalier microphones
- Multimedia podiums
- A variety of beverage and catering options from a number of Chamber member providers, from boxed lunches, snacks and buffets to full plated meals

"We are very pleased with the level of service and professionalism provided by the Chamber staff," says Kelly Mackey, a representative from Chase and a frequent conference center user. "The conference center is a great state-of-the-art facility that features the technologies we most often use in presentations and meetings."

On-site event coordinators will assist you in setting up your room and selecting amenities, beverages and catering. They will also be on-hand throughout your professional event to ensure everything is executed perfectly. With a central, modern location and easily accessible free parking, the CenturyLink Conference Center at the Chamber is an ideal space for any of your meeting and event needs.

To schedule a tour of the facilities or to book your meeting space, call 702.641.5822. It's never too early to get ahead. 

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creating a social media policy @yourcompany



Until recently, social media was not a term in an employer's vocabulary, nor a workplace concern. But the rise of social media — like Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn and YouTube — have blurred the line between the private and professional, as employees chronicle their work and personal lives. Social media tools are a powerful form of communication that can have a significant impact on organizational, professional and individual reputations. Employees oftentimes fail to use good judgment and think about the consequences of what they post. Thus, workplace social media is now becoming an area that employers are increasingly regulating.


Generally, employers face two sorts of risks relating to employee usage of social media: business and legal risks stemming directly from employee use of social media — offending customers and clients, negative publicity and damage to the employer's reputation — and legal risks stemming from firing employees or taking other adverse action due to the use of social media — retaliation and discrimination claims. So how does an employer create a social media policy that is not only enforceable but complementary to the overall social media strategy?

CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING:

- Be clear that there is no expectation of privacy relating to the use of company-issued equipment or systems, and employees understand that information and data transmitted through company-issued equipment may be monitored.
- Determine whether the employer intends to mandate that company-issued equipment and systems are for business use only.
- Include a statement that communications and transmissions on company-issued equipment or systems are the property of the company.
- Determine whether the employer wants to restrict access to personal networking sites from company-issued equipment or systems, including Twitter, YouTube and Facebook.
- Be clear that company logos and trademarks may not be used without the company's written consent.
- Ensure the policy is clear that employees must use good judgment and exercise personal responsibility in his or her company-related postings.
- Social networking and blogging activities should not interfere with work commitments.
- Managers and supervisors should avoid social media relationships with non-managerial employees, except in cases where the relationship is limited to business-related networking or there is a legitimate business purpose.
- Be clear that an employee who violates this policy may be subject to immediate discipline, including termination of employment.

Once the employer has determined the elements it will include in its social media policy, the policy can be prepared by either revising an existing policy or preparing a new stand-alone policy. The revised or new social media policy should then be acknowledged in writing by each employee.

The National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) is engaged in heightened scrutiny of social media policies. In a nutshell, the NLRB very likely will find unlawful any policy that may be construed to prevent employees from using social media to discuss terms and conditions of employment, to criticize management or to engage in protected concerted activity.

Thus, an employer who elects to implement a social media policy should be cognizant of any recent decisions or memoranda from the NLRB regarding its current position on this issue as, like social media, the NLRB's opinions are routinely evolving. Moreover, social media policies should be narrowly tailored. Keep these in mind as you create your company's own social media policy. 



Written by Jill Garcia, Shareholder
Ogletree, Deakins, Nash, Smoak & Stewart, P.C.

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1 WEDNESDAY
CHAMBER CONNECTIONS
Increase your leads and business referrals! This networking club is an established dedicated leads group made up of professionals from a variety of industries. Limited openings available; please call for space availability.
5:30 - 7:00 p.m.
Las Vegas Chamber of Commerce*
\$120 every six months. Chamber members only. 702.641.5822 or chamberconnections@lvchamber.com.

8 WEDNESDAY
CHAMBER VOICES
TOASTMASTERS
Be a better speaker and a more effective presenter. Chamber Voices Toastmasters is open to all members to aid in the development of speaking, presentation and leadership skills.
10:45 a.m. - Noon
Las Vegas Chamber of Commerce*
\$54 every six months.
Guests always complimentary.

9 THURSDAY
MORNING MINGLE
Maximize your Chamber membership by attending this breakfast series designed for members who want to learn about volunteer opportunities within the Chamber to build their business network.
7:30 - 8:00 a.m.
Registration & Networking
8:00 - 9:30 a.m. Program
Las Vegas Chamber of Commerce*
Complimentary. Registration Required. Hosted by the Las Vegas Chamber of Commerce Prospectors. Register online or call 702.641.5822.

Sponsors:



9 THURSDAY
LOCAL GOVERNMENT POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING
Working to enhance a positive business environment is Southern Nevada, this policy committee will study proposed government activities for their impact on business.
2:00 - 4:00 p.m.
Las Vegas Chamber of Commerce*
Exclusive to Chamber members and their employees only. Register online or call 702.641.5822.

EVENTS

AUGUST

TWO EASY WAYS TO REGISTER FOR CHAMBER EVENTS:

Go to LVChamber.com and find your event on the Events Calendar, or call 702.641.5822.

LAS VEGAS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE ADDRESS:
6671 Las Vegas Blvd. South, Suite 300
Las Vegas, NV 89119 (at Town Square)

*Event will be held in the CenturyLink™ Conference Center at the Las Vegas Chamber of Commerce

15 WEDNESDAY
CHAMBER CONNECTIONS
See August 1 for details.

17 FRIDAY
HEALTH CARE POLICY COMMITTEE
Address the issues facing the health care industry, including federal health care reform, health care delivery systems and providers as well as opportunities and challenges related to the industry.
2:00 - 4:00 p.m.
Las Vegas Chamber of Commerce*
Exclusive to Chamber members and their employees only. Register online or call 702.641.5822.

21 TUESDAY
EDUCATION POLICY COMMITTEE
Engage other business professionals and educators to address the issues facing the K-12 and higher education systems in Las Vegas.
1:00 - 3:00 p.m.
Las Vegas Chamber of Commerce*
Exclusive to Chamber members and their employees only. Register online or call 702.641.5822.

22 WEDNESDAY
CHAMBER VOICES
TOASTMASTERS
See August 8 for details.

22 WEDNESDAY
BUSINESS POWER LUNCHEON



Join the Las Vegas Chamber of Commerce for an inspirational and motivational luncheon as we partner with the Wounded Warrior Project's Warriors to Work Division and guest speaker Retired Sergeant First Class Norbie Lara for an event that will change you and your business. A portion of proceeds from each ticket sold will be donated to the Wounded Warrior Project™.

11:30 a.m. - Noon
Registration & Networking
Noon - 1:00 p.m. Program
The Four Seasons
3960 Las Vegas Blvd. South
Las Vegas, NV 89119

\$55 for members
\$65 for non-members
\$70 for walk-ins
\$550 for table of ten
Table purchase includes two tickets to the VIP meet & greet.
702.641.5822 or online
Sponsors:



24 FRIDAY
EGGS AND ISSUES
FEATURING U.S. SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION RAY LAHOOD



Join Secretary LaHood at Eggs & Issues as he gives remarks on infrastructure and development in Southern Nevada, and its impact on the business community. A Q & A will follow.

8:00 - 8:30 a.m. Registration
8:30 - 9:30 a.m. Program
Palms Casino Resort
4321 W. Flamingo Rd.
Las Vegas, NV 89103

\$40 for members
\$55 for non-members
\$400 for table of 10
Sponsor:



30 THURSDAY
PRESIDENT'S CLUB AND EXECUTIVE LEVEL MIXER AT THE FOUNDATION ROOM

Don't miss your chance to enjoy one of Vegas' most exclusive nightspots from a unique vantage point. Build high-level business relationships with fellow business leaders and decision makers inside the Shangri-La Room in the Foundation Room.

5:30 - 7:30 p.m.
House of Blues Las Vegas Foundation Room
3950 Las Vegas Blvd.
Las Vegas, NV 89119

Complimentary for President's Club and Executive Level members and their guest. To register, please call 702.641.5822 and ask to speak to Events.

Sponsor:



VEGAS YOUNG PROFESSIONALS
A LAS VEGAS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE ENTERPRISE

VYP SPONSORS:



7 TUESDAY
MORNING BUZZ
Are you interested in joining VYP or just joined but want to know what VYP can do for you? Morning Buzz is a great opportunity for you to enjoy a FREE light breakfast and learn more about what VYP has to offer. You'll also get a chance to meet VYP Ambassadors as well as members of the Advisory Council for a small, informal question and answer session.
7:30 - 8:30 a.m.
Las Vegas Chamber of Commerce*
Complimentary.
702.586.3833 or VegasYP.com

Sponsor:



13 MONDAY
VEGAS YOUNG PROFESSIONALS TOASTMASTERS
Communication skills are vital to success in the business world. The VYP Toastmasters group is for all members to aid in the development of speaking, presentation and leadership skills.
6:30 - 8:00 p.m.
Usr lib (above The Beat Coffeehouse)
520 E. Fremont St.
Las Vegas, NV 89101
FREE for guests
\$60 to join, \$36 every six months.
702.586.3833 or VegasYP.com

Hosted By:



16 THURSDAY
VEGAS YOUNG PROFESSIONALS WHITE HOT FUSION MIXER
Join Vegas Young Professionals for its biggest party of the year, White Hot at ghostbar inside of the Palms Casino Resort! This year, VYP has grown to more than 1,300 members and we're ready to celebrate!
7:00 - 9:00 p.m.
ghostbar
Palms Casino Resort
4321 W. Flamingo Rd.
Las Vegas, NV 89103
\$10 online, \$15 at the door
702.586.3833 or VegasYP.com

Sponsor:



CenturyLink™

Hosted By:



27 MONDAY
VEGAS YOUNG PROFESSIONALS TOASTMASTERS
See August 13 for details.

29 WEDNESDAY
BIG WIG LUNCH TIME WITH MAYOR CAROLYN GOODMAN
Mayor Goodman will speak about the local business community and issues affecting young professionals. Following her comments, there will be an opportunity for the audience to participate in a Q&A session.
11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Fogo De Chao
360 E. Flamingo Rd.
Las Vegas, NV 89169
\$25, Exclusive for VYP Members
Ticket price includes lunch
Hosted By:



Does Your Health Plan Not Cover These Drugs?

Tramadol HCL Phentermine
Zolpidem Simvastatin
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If you are prescribed a non-covered drug, use Nevada Drug Card to save money.



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SAVINGS HOTLINE:
If you didn't save money on your Rx, call (TOLL-FREE) 800-243-1905.

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Pharmacy Helpline: 800-248-1062
This program is not insurance. This is a point-of-sale discount plan.

- ✓ Free and available to all residents!
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Contact:

Suzanne Domoracki - Program Development
suzanne@nevadadrugcard.com • 888-826-8636



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- All Materials Provided

To enroll in the program or get more information, visit LVChamber.com/cse or call 702.641.5822.

Vegas Las Vegas Chamber of Commerce

wellness in the workplace:

healthier employees,
healthier business



Promoting healthy habits among your employees can literally pay off in the long run. Healthier employees work better, miss less work and are generally more productive. According to Health Promotion Advocates, for every dollar employers invest in a workplace wellness program, they could save \$2.38 on medical costs and as much as \$5.82 on the cost of employees missing work due to illness or injury.

Wellness plans can vary from workplace to workplace. Your insurance carrier may have a wellness program already in place. There are also steps you take as an employer to promote healthy habits among your employees and their families. These simple measures include:

- Including healthier food choices in vending machines and catered office affairs.
- Establishing an in-house wellness library, with magazines, books and other articles.
- Supporting community health efforts, such as forming a company team for an upcoming walk benefiting a non-profit organization.
- Reimbursing all or part of gym memberships.
- Providing opportunities for health screenings on a regular basis.

For Chamber members who utilize the Chamber Health Plan, UnitedHealthcare offers a program that includes promoting preventive care through health screenings, smoking cessation therapies, assistance for those engaging in weight loss plans and fitness reimbursement. There are also educational coaches available for heart health, diabetes, stress and nutrition.

For more information, visit LVChamber.com or ChamberIB.com. BV

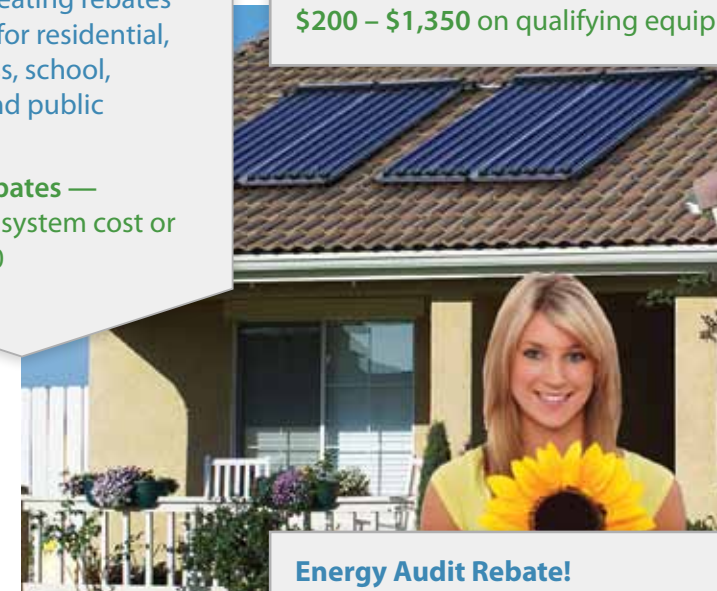
Rebates For Your Business!

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Solar Water Heating Rebates!

Solar water heating rebates are available for residential, small business, school, non-profit, and public properties.

Available Rebates —
Up to 50% of system cost or up to \$30,000



Commercial Equipment Rebates!

Natural gas fryers, combination ovens, storage and tankless water heaters, and griddles.

Available Rebates —
\$200 – \$1,350 on qualifying equipment



Energy Audit Rebate!

Learn how and where to cut costs with an energy audit.

Available Rebate —
50% up to \$5,000 on a facility audit

Take advantage of additional energy-efficient rebates available such as custom and boiler rebates.



For details on eligibility and requirements, please visit www.swgasliving.com/bizvoice or call our Energy Specialists at 1-800-654-2765.



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SOUTHWEST GAS
smarter > greener > better

The Las Vegas Chamber of Commerce is proud to provide members with a place to publish their current announcements. Email news items to pr@lvchamber.com or fax to Public Relations at 702.735.0320.

■ Upcoming Events

Nathan Adelson Hospice locations will serve as drop-off points for much-needed school supplies for students at Robert L. Taylor and Sunrise Acres elementary schools. Supplies may be dropped off between 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., now through August 22.

The City of Las Vegas Economic and Urban Development Department, along with **Lionel Sawyer & Collins** law firm, will continue its series of business seminars. On August 7, the topic will be Trademarks, Trade Names, Service Marks and E-Commerce; on August 27, the series will focus on Small Claims Court. The seminars are held at the Historic Fifth Street School; 401 South Fourth Street, from 7:45 – 9:30 a.m. Call 702.229.6862 to register.

HELP of Southern Nevada's "Boot Scootin' Benefit" will be held at **Gilley's Saloon, Dance Hall & Bar-B-Que at Treasure Island** on Saturday, August 11, from 1:00 – 5:00 p.m. For more information, contact Abby Quinn at aquinn@helpsonv.org or call 702.836.2130.

MGM Resorts Foundation's Women's Leadership Conference will take place on August 14 – 15, and will feature empowering presentations, informative workshops, career coaching and networking opportunities. For more information and to register, visit MGMResorts.com/womensleadershipconference.

UNLV Libraries' Business By the Book workshop series, designed to teach business owners what online resources are available to them at UNLV libraries and how to use them effectively, will be held Wednesday, August 15, 5:00 – 7:00 p.m. at Lied Library – Pioche Room.

■ CommunityService

Sixty employees of **Commercial Roofers** donated a day of their wages and gifted more than \$101,000 to Convoy of Hope to help feed the impoverished around the world. The donation will provide more than 400,000 meals to feed starving children.

City National Bank donated \$5,000 to **Big Brothers Big Sisters of Southern Nevada** in support of its site-based programming with the **Clark County School District** and individual schools in the district.

■ Congratulations

MountainView Hospital was presented the American Heart Association/American Stroke Association's "Get With the Guidelines" Stroke Gold Quality Achievement Award for its success in implementing a higher standard of stroke care.

Twenty-three lawyers from **Lionel Sawyer & Collins** were selected for inclusion in the 2012 edition of *Super Lawyers* for the Mountain States region.

Tom Axtell, general manager of **Vegas PBS**, was named the 2012 Scott C. Elliott Development Professional of the Year by the Public Broadcasting Service (PBS).

Holland & Hart LLP announces that 10 of its Las Vegas attorneys have been named to the 2012 list of Mountain States Super Lawyers.

Sunrise Hospital and Sunrise Children's Hospital are the only hospitals in Nevada recognized by U.S. News and World Report in its annual hospital rankings for high performance.

Three attorneys from **Snell & Wilmer** in Las Vegas have been named as leaders in their respective fields by Chamber USA: America's Leading Lawyers for Business 2012.

Benchmark Association Services announces Liz Alzina and Helen Marshall received the Associaton Management Specialist (AMS) designation through the Community Associations Institute (CAI).

Caesars Entertainment received the 2012 Silver IMEX Green Supplier Award for its unwavering commitment to environmental sustainability.

The facilities for **Nevada Oral & Facial Surgery**, owned by Drs. Brendan Johnson and John Holtzen, have achieved certification and the Gold Seal of Approval from the Joint Commission for Health Care Staffing and Patient Safety Services.

Nineteen **McDonald Carano Wilson LLP** attorneys are recognized in the 2012 edition of Mountain States Super Lawyers and Rising Stars.

Gaming Laboratories International (GLI) has been named a "Registered Independent Testing Laboratory" by the State of Nevada Gaming Control Board.

Bill Eadington, economics professor and director of the Institute for the Study of Gambling and Commercial Gaming at the **University of Nevada, Reno College of Business**, was recognized by the National Council on Problem Gambling for his lifetime of work.

■ Announcements

Life Care Center of Las Vegas welcomes Maria Gaerlan, M.D. as an on-site physician who will work with an interdisciplinary team and other attending physicians in caring for patients.

Flip Wright was promoted to executive vice president/strategy & innovation for **The Glenn Group**.

Jasmine Ware and Scott Hill have joined **NetEffect** as support specialists, and Tomeka White was named customer service representative.

The Regional Transportation Commission of Southern Nevada (RTC) announced the 2012 Viva Bike Vegas Gran Fondo Pinarello scheduled to be held on Saturday, September 22, will now include a 102-mile century ride.

Michael Lynch has joined **Kolesar & Leatham** and will focus his practice on commercial litigation with a specific emphasis on commercial lending, receiverships, contract disputes, claim and delivery.

Ric Rushton joined **Gatski Commercial Real Estate Services** as senior associate, investment sales and leading.

Colliers International hired Gabe Telles as a broker for the company's gaming group.

Bob Stegall, FPC, has been named payroll and human resources consultant at **ManagedPAY**.

Tahiti Village Resort has hired Steve Zappanti as the new executive chef at Tahiti Joe's, and Kim Gyllensten as the new food and beverage manager at the resort.

Gail E. Boyle, CPA, CGMA, was named principal at **Tompkins & Peters CPAs, P.C.**

Nevada State Bank welcomes Dean Collins as senior vice president/professional banking manager, and Rita Vaswani as vice president/professional relationship manager.

1010 Collective advertising agency named Bridgit Space as its new account executive.

Tim Edison joined the **Furniture Market** as an interior designer.

School of Rock is teaming up with LOVE HOPE STRENGTH for its annual Allstars national benefit tour. For the first time, the 21-city tour will stop at major music festivals such as the Warped Tour, Summerfest, Red Rocks Film on the Rocks, Ribfest and Gathering of the Vibes, in addition to club venues.

ViVi Bombshell Model and Entertainment Agency is looking for new models to join the agency.

■ Wheeling and Dealing

Cox Business launched an online social destination for businesses. The website, BLUE Powered by Cox Business, contains exclusive content from global social media, marketing and business leaders and is free to all businesses.

ACT BioRemediation Products, with products to prevent ground and water contamination, opened a new office at 2503 Sirius Star Street in Henderson. The new office will be directed by Roger A. Johnson.

Chapel of the Flowers launched personal wedding websites for its couples to share their Vegas wedding story.

Commercial Executives recently brokered the sale of an office building for \$299,000.

Southern Highlands Cyclery opened for business at 10550 Southern Highlands Parkway, Suite 130.

MGM Resorts International's M life loyalty program announced a new relationship with Visa, Inc., a leading global payments technology company, and Topgquest, a product that enables loyalty programs to reward members for sharing on social networks.

Burke Construction Group completed construction of the Perry Plaza Senior Housing Complex for the Southern Nevada Regional Housing Authority.

Spa & Salon Vdara is now offering five poolside treatments on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays now through late September.

Congratulations to the following companies celebrating membership anniversaries in **AUGUST 2012**.

+50 years

Jones Vargas 59

+20 years

Ewing Brothers, Inc. 36
Clark County Bar & Restaurant Supply 36
Tuxedo Junction 32

15 years

The Boulevard Mall
Cinema Collectors
Compliance Science
Las Vegas Endodontics – Drs. Christensen & Brizzee
Las Vegas Info Pak
Results Unlimited Fitness

10 years

A & A Uniforms Inc.
Caldera Wealth Management
Chermac Builders, Inc.
Cynthia Cameron
Frank Melaerts Jewelers
Law Office of Steven J. Karen
Mark A. Martinez & Associates
N. S. Meinster & Co., Inc.
Nationwide Actuarial Search
New Crete - Decorative Concrete Resurfacing
Premier Trust
Prime Cut Hair Design
Ramsey & Son, Inc.
Rhonda L. Mushkin, Chartered
Sal's Pizza
Sign-A-Rama
Southwick Landscape Architects
Taylor International Corporation

5 years

Assembly Democratic Caucus
Blair Video Group
Box Canyon Primary Care
Buffalo Alta Animal Hospital
C & L Services, LLC
CPAmerica, Inc.
City Wide Funding
Fingerprinting Pros
Gems, Etc. ...
Hampton Inn & Suites Las Vegas Red Rock/Summerlin
Harris Insurance Services, Inc.
Hilton Garden Inn
King, Gross & Sutcliffe, Ltd.
Majestic Behavioral Health
Miller Rentals, Inc.
Postnet
Regional Transportation Commission of Southern Nevada
Silver State Trustee Services, LLC
Silverado Self Storage, LLC
WMDK Corp
Zeba Beauty Salon



Town & Country Bank

Executive

Town & Country Bank celebrated its 10th anniversary at one of its four locations in metro Las Vegas. As a friendly local community bank, its goal is to provide consumers and businesses the products and services needed. Call 800.823.3856 or visit tcbanknv.com.



Robinson's Ceiling Cleaning

Robinson's Ceiling Cleaning offers professional ceiling cleaning services, including acoustical ceilings, and is licensed, insured and bonded. It also offers free estimates. Call 702.576.4718 or visit robinsonscleaning.com.



St. Jude Children's Research Hospital

St. Jude Children's Research Hospital unveiled the 2012 edition of heart sculptures at Symphony Park at The Smith Center, each custom-created by local artists to raise awareness in its fight against childhood cancer and other catastrophic pediatric disease. Visit lvpcfoundation.org or stjude.org/lasvegas.



Family Trust Insurance/United Financial Associates, Inc.

Family Trust Insurance/United Financial Associates, Inc. celebrated its new location at 6420 W. Spring Mountain Rd. Family Trust represents many insurance companies, and can compare coverage and prices to find the best possible value for your needs. Call 702.212.3838 or visit familytrustins.com.



Simmons LMFT, LLC

Simmons LMFT, LLC celebrated its grand opening at 9053 S. Pecos Rd. Simmons LMFT, LLC practices marriage and family therapy in English and Spanish and provides but is not limited to psychotherapy services for individuals, families and couples. Call 702.260.6203 or email laura.simmonslmft@cox.net.



Accuracy Gun Shop

Accuracy Gun Shop celebrated 40 years in business at 5903 Boulder Hwy. Accuracy Gun Shop serves Southern Nevada with shooting sports needs and provides custom gun smithing. It carries guns, ammo and reloading needs. Call 702.458.3330 or visit accuracygunshop.com.

* To arrange your ribbon cutting, contact Georgia Allen at 702.586.3838 or email gallen@lvchamber.com.

Chamber Member Discount Offer



Cushman & Wakefield Commerce Real Estate

Cushman & Wakefield Commerce Real Estate celebrated more than 30 years in Southern Nevada at 3980 Howard Hughes Pkwy. Cushman & Wakefield is the world's largest privately-held commercial real estate services firm. Call 702.688.6956 or visit comre.com.



DEX Digital

DEX Digital celebrated its new Digital launch. DEX Digital is one of only 15 Google Adwords premier SMB partners that helps businesses create a strong online presence to help them compete effectively while tracking their results. Call 702.443.2179 or visit dexdigital.com.



eAutoNiche.com

eAutoNiche.com celebrated its new Chamber membership at 6295 Harrison Dr. eAutoNiche.com specializes in "niche" type vehicles from classic cars and ATVs to low mile, extra clean used cars and trucks. Experience the difference and find your next rare vehicle at eAutoNiche.com or call 702.496.0282.



Emergency Air Conditioning & Heating

Emergency Air Conditioning & Heating celebrated its new Chamber membership as a residential air conditioning & heating company that serves the greater Las Vegas area. Call 702.483.7795 or visit emergencyairandheating.com.



Hobby Lobby

Hobby Lobby celebrated its grand opening at 4955 S. Ft. Apache Rd. It offers more than 65,000 crafting and home décor products. Call 702.369.0064 or visit hobbylobby.com.



Master Transmission & Automotive Centers

Master Transmission & Automotive Centers proudly celebrated 21 years serving the Las Vegas Valley. It is a family owned and operated full service car care center with two locations. Call 702.456.0231 or visit mastermta.com.



Roberto's Taco Shop

President's Club

Roberto's Taco Shop celebrated its re-opening at 907 S. Rainbow Blvd. Call 702.258.2699 or visit robertostacoshop.com.



Synthetic Turf Products



Synthetic Turf Products celebrated its grand opening at its new Las Vegas office located at 4205 W. Tompkins, Suite 1. Call 702.367.TURF(8873) or visit syntheticturfproducts.com.



Yoke! Local Marketing

Yoke! Local Marketing celebrated its one-year anniversary and new location at 285 E. Warm Springs Rd., Suite 104. Call 702.331.3331 or visit yokelocalmarketing.com.



Capstone Brokerage

Executive

Capstone Brokerage celebrated its 15-year anniversary and new location at 8686 W. Sahara Ave., Suite 100. Call 702.227.5727 or visit capstonebrokerage.com.



Village Square/Sentinel

President's Club

Westport Capital Partners and Sentinel Development, along with elected officials and other VIPs, celebrated the unveiling of renovation plans for Village Square at 9410 W. Sahara Ave. Visit govillagesquare.com.



Which Wich Superior Sandwiches



Which Wich Superior Sandwiches celebrated its two-year anniversary and Chamber membership located at 2192 N. Rainbow Blvd., Suite 100. Call 702.648.8100 or visit whichwich.com.

* To arrange your ribbon cutting, contact Georgia Allen at 702.586.3838 or email gallen@lvchamber.com.

Chamber Member Discount Offer



First Choice Business Brokers

First Choice Business Brokers celebrated 12 years of professional experience in assisting in selling or buying a business smoothly, reputably and with confidence. Call 702.326.1055 or visit fcbblv.com.



Metro McDonald's

President's Club

Metro McDonald's celebrated its one-of-a-kind restaurant on the Strip, located at 3717 Las Vegas Blvd., across the street from CityCenter and the Cosmopolitan. Metro McDonald's features digital menu boards, Wi-Fi access, sleek, modern furniture and graffiti murals. It comprises 6,734 square feet over two stories and is open 24 hours.



Opportunity Village Thrift Store

Opportunity Village Thrift Store celebrated its new location at 390 S. Decatur Blvd. after a fire destroyed the former building on Main Street. Call 702.383.1082 or visit opportunityvillage.org.



Hanson's Water Treatment

Hanson's Water Treatment opened its new location, showroom and parts department at 3870 W. Ali Baba Ln. Call 702.364.4550 or visit hansonwater.com.



Inspirations and Creations by Kim



Inspirations and Creations by Kim celebrated its grand opening. Call 702.336.3130 or visit flowers-by-kim.com.



Law Office of Robert Spear

The Law Office of Robert Spear commemorated its new membership and location at 3654 N. Rancho Dr. Call 702.750.0571 or visit spearlegal.com.

eggs & issues

featuring u.s. congressman joe heck



Eggs & Issues provided a great opportunity to hear from U.S. Congressman Joe Heck on the issues that matter most to business in Southern Nevada. Attendees asked questions during a town hall-style Q & A session and visited with one another during the network-building breakfast.

vegas young professionals

fusion mixer at the martin



Perched atop the 22nd floor of The Martin, a luxury condo complex overlooking the Las Vegas Strip, VYP members made connections and networked with one another. Check out why VYP has grown to more than 1,300 members on August 16, at the annual White Hot Fusion Mixer at ghostbar inside the Palms Casino Resort.

SPECIAL

**Legal
Opinions**

REPORT

A Resource of Doing Business in Nevada

November 2012

The November issue of *Nevada Business Magazine* will include a special editorial feature written by some of the state's most prominent attorneys and addressing issues of concern to those doing business in Nevada.

Call an account executive for information or being featured in this special report.



Editorial must be submitted by September 28, 2012.

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 the decision maker's magazine

ISSUES THAT MATTER: GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS UPDATES

INTERSTATE 11: A GAME CHANGER

Interstate 11 (I-11) became one step closer to reality in the last few weeks as a major transportation bill was signed into law by President Barack Obama. This designation represents a major step forward in providing an economic lifeline to Las Vegas. I-11 will connect Las Vegas and Phoenix, which are now the two largest metropolitan areas not connected by an interstate highway. The Chamber has been a strong and vocal advocate for this designation, which will expand opportunities for Southern Nevada to expand and diversify, especially in regards to tourism, distribution, manufacturing and logistics.

Chamber president and CEO Kristin McMillan commented, "It will connect Las Vegas to Phoenix and the entire western region of the United States, positioning Southern Nevada as more nationally and globally competitive."

For their support in moving this important piece of legislation forward, the Chamber would like to thank Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, Senator Dean Heller, Congresswoman Shelley Berkley, Congressman Joe Heck, Congressman Mark Amodei, Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure Chairman John Mica (R-FL) and Congressman Bill Shuster (R-PA), as well as former U.S. Congressman Jon Porter and Robert Herbert from Senator Reid's staff. For more information on the I-11 designation, visit LVChamber.com.

WATER RATES RECEDE

Businesses will receive some relief from recent increases to water bills, come September. Local companies, some of which experienced up to a 300 percent increase in their water bills following the rate changes in April, have expressed concerns about the negative impacts of the increases in terms of hiring, lay-offs and business sustainability.

At the Southern Nevada Water Authority (SNWA) Board of Directors meeting on July 19, the Board unanimously approved a 50 percent reduction on business fire meter charges through the form of a monthly credit that will be applied to water rates starting in September. This credit will need to be ratified and approved by the City of Henderson, City of North Las Vegas and the Las Vegas Water Valley District.

The Chamber has been leading the effort to evaluate the economic impacts of the rate increases and to actively and persistently urge relief for the Las Vegas business community. We thank the SNWA Board of Directors and Commissioner Steve Sisolak for listening and for making necessary changes now. For more information on the new fire meter credit for businesses, visit SNWA.com.

NEVADA TAX COMMISSION MOVES FORWARD WITH PROPOSED CHANGES

The Nevada Tax Commission recently voted on proposed regulations that will change rules on trade fixtures and the collection of sales and use tax on comped meals to employees and patrons.

Relating to trade fixtures, the commission created a multiple factor test to determine the objective "permanency" of an item and whether or not it is personal or real property. (Real property cannot be classified as a trade fixture.) The commission also included language requested by the business community that would eliminate the issuance of a building permit for property as a factor in the permanency test.

The commission adopted the regulation to collect sales and use tax on comped meals to employees and patrons despite considerable opposing testimony from the culinary union, gaming, restaurants, taverns and other business representatives, and no testimony

in support of the proposed regulation. While the commissioners realized the difficulty of this issue, they voted to maintain the status quo since litigation is still pending on this subject matter.

Both regulations must now go before the Legislative Commission for approval in order to become permanent.

REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITIES ANNOUNCED

The Governor's Office of Economic Development designated 10 organizations as Regional Development Authorities (RDAs), as part of Governor Sandoval's State Plan for Excellence in Economic Development.

In Clark County, the designation has been awarded to the Las Vegas Regional Economic Development Council, a group in which the Chamber has played a significant role. The organization will coordinate a wide array of economic development efforts among public and private sector stakeholders; drive strategies designed to create jobs and grow businesses; market and brand the region; and develop plans to meet the region's workforce needs.

CHAMBER FILES LAWSUIT AGAINST LEGALITY OF MARGIN TAX INITIATIVE PETITION

The Chamber's Government Affairs Committee voted to oppose the recently released initiative petition filed by the AFL-CIO and teachers' union that would create a margin tax on businesses.

The Las Vegas Chamber of Commerce joined a group of business organizations in Nevada to form a coalition called, "The Committee to Protect Nevada Jobs." Recently, the coalition filed a legal challenge to the initiative, asserting that it is flawed and misleading and is contrary to certain Nevada laws.

The Chamber vigorously opposes the enactment of taxation and other laws through initiative petition, where special interest groups can advance their own desires and, as a result, bypass the legislative process where important public policies can be fully debated and reworked to address diverse input and avoid unintended consequences. BV



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WHAT NEW TECHNOLOGY HAVE YOU INCORPORATED IN YOUR BUSINESS, HOW HAS YOUR BUSINESS BENEFITED AS A RESULT OF IT?



I recently bought an EPSON photo printer that allows me to print my photographs directly onto canvas! I can now fulfill more clients' orders directly and make more customizable products. It is exciting to be able to print my own imagery and see a product from conception to the end!

McKenzi Taylor, Photographer/Owner
Taylor Photo Memories



BEC Environmental, Inc. recently changed from separate accounting and time and billing software to real-time project management software. The new software tracks full project lifecycles, integrating Accounting, Project Management and Business Development functions. All team members now have constant access to the most accurate and timely information possible, whether in our Las Vegas headquarters, our satellite offices, or in the field.

Eileen Christensen, President
BEC Environmental, Inc.



At the Foundation for Positively Kids, we're implementing a new electronic medical records system through our IT service provider, Net Effect, and their cloud computing platform. This is an essential step toward launching our new Pediatric Skilled Nursing Facility so we can more effectively care for children throughout Nevada.

Fred Schultz, CEO
Foundation for Positively Kids



Nathan Adelson Hospice has become the first hospice to develop and sell a "customized app" for healthcare organizations. Called iRefer DR, it can be used by anyone in healthcare that has a referral-based business. It has tremendously helped us and other medical professionals facilitate health care processes. It includes support, training, content data hosting and content management support.

Carole Fisher, President and CEO
Nathan Adelson Hospice

About a month ago we installed an Alice Receptionist (www.alicereceptionist.com) system to manage our office visitor traffic after losing our last receptionist. Alice has been a great addition to our office, greeting visitors and connecting them with employees in or out of the office using a touchscreen, on-screen employee directory and 2-way video communications. Alice has benefited our office by effectively and elegantly managing our office lobby.

Chuck Ley, President/CEO
Cornerstone Merchant Services, Inc.



Storage West installed a new computer system. This new technology lets our customers pay their rent on line and new customers can reserve a unit on line. This has created a better form of customer service and keeping Storage West in the forefront of the storage industry...

Kevin & Laura Fairchild, Facility Managers
Storage West – Eastern



GLB Insurance group has utilized technology to help us streamline our internal operations to the best ability to service our customers. A combination of High Speed Scanners, Fax Technology, Dual Monitors and Industry Software including upload and download capabilities has helped our offices to integrate paperless environments to manage workflows to the maximum efficiency.

Russell A. Swain, CIC, President
GLB INSURANCE GROUP OF NEVADA



In support of Nevada's technology start-ups, project-driven departments within Switch have been using Tracky, the new social collaboration platform, to manage seamless team communications and project excellence. Tracky allows the user to create tracks and the tasks within those tracks to be shared with chosen users to participate.

Lesley Dick, EVP, Facility Services
Switch



My favorite technology is a pen for writing personal notes. People really appreciate the extra time and thought that goes into a handwritten note. This is the best "social media."

Bryan Land, Owner
Bryan Land Agency LLC - Insurance Services



With the recent acquisition of Savvis, a recognized global leader in managed IT services and Enterprise-Grade Cloud Services, CenturyLink now offers secure cloud computing management solutions. This cutting edge technology provides our customers with cost effective solutions to reduce hardware and energy costs while increasing security and flexibility. Now businesses can rely on CenturyLink as a one-stop shop for their communication infrastructure needs.

Jeff Oberschelp, General Manager
CenturyLink

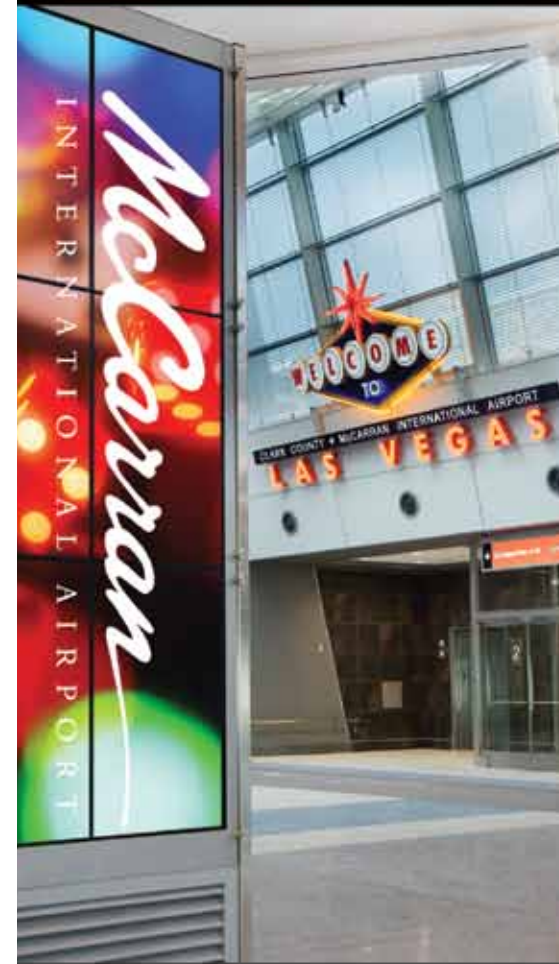


At Media One Pro, we have incorporated Tracky as a new technology for our company. This solution allows our company to keep track of projects with the capabilities to set goals & milestones, have a group discussion online in one central location, and add attachments to tracks to share ideas.

Steven Kim, CEO
Media One Pro

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